

# Chase LaSpisa

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## NATIONAL HONORS

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**Fulbright Grantee**, 24-25 Fulbright U.S Study/Research Grant Award to Norway 2024-2025

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. Political Science, **University of Iowa** May 2026 (expected)

Dissertation: “*Maritime Zones of Contention: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Resources on Maritime International Conflict and Cooperation*”

Committee: Sara Mitchell (chair), Brian Lai, Frederick Boehmke, Krista Wiegand

M.A. Political Science, **University of Iowa** December 2021

B.A. Political Science, **Oklahoma State University** May 2020

Minors: Economics & Russian Language and Literature

Summa Cum Laude & Honors College Degree

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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**LaSpisa, Chase**. 2025. “Dangerous Development: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Discovery and Production on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”. *International Interactions* 25 (1): 29-57. [\[Link\]](#)

**LaSpisa, Chase** and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2025. “Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict”. *Foreign Policy Analysis* 21 (2): 1-15. [\[Link\]](#)

## WORKING PAPERS

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**LaSpisa, Chase**. “The Oil-Repression Nexus: Oil Reliance and Government Incentives to Repress”

**LaSpisa, Chase**. The Impact of Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”

**LaSpisa, Chase**. “Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”

Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. “Protesting the Patriarchy: Public Gender Attitudes and Women’s Mobilization”

Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. “When it Rains, it Pours: The Effect of Natural Disasters on Low-Scale Social Conflict”

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Conflict and Political Violence, Maritime Conflict and Cooperation,  
Environmental/Natural Resource Politics, Social Mobilization, Resource Curse

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Research Consultant**, *UIowa Center for Social Science Innovation* Fall 2023-present

<b>Research Assistant</b> , <i>Cooperation in Civil Wars</i>	Fall 2023-Summer 2024
<b>Editorial Assistant</b> , <i>American Political Science Review</i>	Fall 2022-Summer 2023
<b>Editorial Assistant</b> , <i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i>	Spring 2021-Summer 2022
<b>Research Assistant</b> , <i>Issue Correlates of War</i>	Summer 2021

## **HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS**

<b>University of Iowa Post-Comprehensive Fellowship</b> , Declined	Spring 2024
<b>Lynne Rienner Award</b> for Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student, International Studies Association	Fall 2023
<b>Delegate</b> , Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop, University of Denver	Fall 2023
<b>Best Seminar Paper</b> , Departmental Award, University of Iowa	Fall 2022
<b>Graduate College Recruitment Fellowship</b> , University of Iowa	Spring 2020
<b>NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates</b> , University of North Texas	Summer 2019

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- “Distinct Impacts of Offshore Oil and Offshore Natural Gas on Maritime Conflict”  
American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA. Fall 2024.
- “From Land to Sea: The Domestic Origins of Maritime Conflict over Fossil-Fuel Resources”  
International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA. Spring 2024.
- “Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict” with Sara McLaughlin Mitchell  
International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2023.
- “Maritime Zones of Contention: The Impact of Maritime Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Diplomatic Conflict”  
European Political Science Association. Glasgow, Scotland. June 2023.
- “Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”  
International Studies Association. Montréal, Québec, Canada. Spring 2023.
- “Fishing for Oil: The Effect of Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Reserves on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”  
International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2022.

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

International Relations, Interstate Conflict, Civil Conflict, Foreign Policy, Conflict Management, Maritime International Relations, Social Mobilization, Natural Resource Politics, Research Design

## **TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

<b>Primary Instructor</b> International Conflict	Fall 2025
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<b>Workshop Instructor</b> , Iowa Social Science Research Center	
Introduction to Stata	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
Introduction to Data Visualization using Stata	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b>	
Introduction to American Foreign Policy (online)	Fall 2021-Fall 2022
Introduction to International Relations	Spring 2021
Introduction to American Foreign Policy	Fall 2020
<b>Guest Lecturer</b>	
International Conflict	Fall 2022
<b>Mentorship</b> , Department of Political Science	
Peer Mentor for Incoming Graduate Students	2021- Present
Undergraduate Research Assistant Mentor	Spring, Fall 2023
Mentored and managed two undergraduate research assistants on a project collecting longitude and latitude data on maritime disputes and taught them the basics of the research and data collection process.	

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## ACADEMIC SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

<b>Reviewer</b> , International Interactions	2024 - Present
<b>At-large Board Member</b> , International Studies Association-Midwest	2022 - 2024
<b>Vice-President</b> , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2021 - 2023
<b>Student Union Rep.</b> , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2020 - 2021

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## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

**International Studies Association**  
**Bridging the Gap**  
**American Political Science Association**

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## ANALYTICAL & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: Stata, R, Tableau, QGIS, ArcGIS, Microsoft Office, SPSS, Qualtrics, and Python (basic)

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## REFERENCES

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell  
Professor and Collegiate Fellow  
University of Iowa  
[Sara-Mitchell@uiowa.edu](mailto:Sara-Mitchell@uiowa.edu)

Brian Lai  
Associate Professor  
University of Iowa  
[Brian-Lai@uiowa.edu](mailto:Brian-Lai@uiowa.edu)

Elizabeth Menninga  
Associate Professor  
University of Iowa  
[Elizabeth-Menninga@uiowa.edu](mailto:Elizabeth-Menninga@uiowa.edu)